

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel the pending claims, and add new claims 70-86, as listed below.

70. (New) A power management system for managing a plurality of modular power supplies for a computer system, the system comprising:

a monitor circuit coupled to receive information from each said power supply of a plurality of power supplies of the computer system, the plurality of power supplies for powering the computer system or subcomponents of the computer system, wherein from the information the monitor circuit is operable to identify a state of each said power supply of the plurality of power supplies, to identify a state associated with at least one group of two or more of the plurality of power supplies, and to generate an alert reflective of any said state;

an alert system circuit operable to receive the alert and communicate with a user concerning the alert.

71. (New) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the monitor circuit is operable to identify a state of a plurality of said groups, each said group of the plurality of said groups comprising two or more of the plurality of power supplies.

72. (New) The power management system of claim 70, wherein said state associated with the group of two or more of the plurality of power supplies comprises a characteristic of the group relative to a threshold.

73. (New) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the monitor circuit is operable to store a value associated with the group, and to derive rate of change information relative to the stored value.

74. (New) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the monitor circuit comprises circuitry to effectuate a grouping of respective said power supplies into said group.

75. (New) The power management system of claim 70, wherein the alarm system circuit is operable to communicate with a user by taking an action selected from a set of actions comprising: initiating an electronic message to be sent to the user, writing an entry into a log, initiating a visual signal, and initiating an email to the user.

76. (New) A method of managing power for a computer system powered by a plurality of power supplies of the computer system, the method comprising:

powering the computer system or subcomponents of the computer system with a plurality of power supplies of the computer system;

monitoring an electrical condition of each of the plurality of power supplies;

grouping two or more, but less than all, of the plurality of power supplies into a group;

monitoring an electrical condition of the group of two or more of the plurality of power supplies; and

based on said monitored electrical condition, determining whether to

communicate a state of the group of two or more of the plurality of power supplies to a user.

77. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising comparing the monitored electrical condition to a threshold.

78. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising, based on said monitoring, communicating the state of the group of two or more of the power supplies to the user.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the state of the group is communicated by taking an action selected from a set of actions comprising: initiating an electronic message to be sent to the user, writing an entry into a log, initiating a visual signal, and initiating an email to the user.

80. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising, based on said monitoring, performing an ameliorative act in response to the electrical condition.

81. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising determining whether the electrical condition has violated a threshold.

82. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising determining rate of change information for said electrical condition.

82. (New) A method comprising:

providing power to a computer system or to subcomponents of the computer system using a plurality of modular power supplies of the computer system;

grouping the plurality of modular power supplies into a plurality of groups, each said group comprising at least two, but less than all, of the modular power supplies;

monitoring each of said modular power supplies and each of said groups;

based on said monitoring, generating information concerning a state of a said group of the modular power supplies; and

communicating said information to a user.

83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the state of the group is communicated by taking an action selected from a set of actions comprising: initiating an electronic message to be sent to the user, writing an entry into a log, initiating a visual signal, and initiating an email to the user.

84. (New) The method of claim 82, further comprising, based on said monitoring, performing an ameliorative act in response to the electrical condition.

85. (New) The method of claim 82, further comprising determining whether the state of the group of two or more of the power supplies has violated a threshold.

86. (New) The method of claim 82, further comprising determining rate of

change information for said electrical condition.